This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1.   (currently amended) A method of establishing a communication between at least two communication units ~~(202, 208)~~ in a digital communication system ~~(200)~~,comprising:

transmitting audio data blocks,

wherein a first communication unit ~~(202)~~ operates on a long delay link and a second communication unit ~~(208)~~ operates on a short delay link, and ~~characterized in that~~

wherein the transmi~~ssion (118)~~tting of audio data blocks is delayed ~~(302)~~ on a site of the short delay link~~'s site~~.

2.   (currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the step of transmitting audio data blocks further compris~~inges~~ the steps:

a) initiating a call set-up phase ~~(110)~~ between a first Base Station (BS) ~~(102)~~ and a second BS ~~(108)~~ and a Call Processing Server (CPS) ~~(106)~~, wherein the first BS ~~(102)~~ operates on the long delay link and the second BS ~~(108)~~ operates on the short delay link;

b) sending by the CPS ~~(106)~~ a Channel Grant instruction ~~(112)~~ to the first BS ~~(102)~~ and to the second BS ~~(108)~~;

c) joining ~~(114)~~ by the first BS and the second BS a multicast group;

d) creating a multicast tree; and

e) transmitting ~~(118)~~ the audio data blocks to the multicast tree.

3.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~claim 1 or~~ claim 2, wherein a value of the delay ~~(302)~~ added on the short delay link is approximately equal to twice a difference between ~~the~~a value of ~~the~~a one way propagation time on the long delay link and a one way propagation time on the short delay link.

4.   (currently amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the one way propagation times on the short delay link and on the long delay link are predefined and provided by the first BS ~~(102)~~ and the second BS ~~(108)~~.

5.   (original) The method according to claim 3, wherein the one way propagation times on the short delay link and on the long delay link are measured by a network infrastructure.

6.   (currently amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the one way propagation times on the short delay link and the long delay link are measured by the CPS ~~(106)~~.

7.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 6~~claim 2, wherein said step of transmitting ~~(118) of~~ the audio data blocks is delayed ~~(302)~~ by delaying sending the ~~Grant~~ Channel <u>Grant</u> instruction to the second BS ~~(108)~~.

8.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 2 to 6~~claim 2, wherein said step of transmitting ~~(118) of~~ the audio data blocks is delayed by buffering the audio data blocks in <u>at least one of a)</u> the second BS ~~(108)~~<u>, b) a Rendezvous Point (RP) router, c) the second communication unit, and d) the CPS</u>.

9.   (cancelled)

10.   (cancelled)

11.   (cancelled)

12.   (currently amended) The method according to claim 5 ~~or claim 6~~, wherein a pinging procedure is used for the measuring.

13.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3 or claim 5 or claim 6~~claim 1, wherein the delay ~~(302)~~ dynamically varies, while any one of the communication units switch to another link with <u>a</u> different one way propagation time.

14.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the first communication unit ~~(202)~~ and the second communication unit ~~(208)~~ notify their users that they operate on a connection with a long delay.

15.   (currently amended) The method according to claim 14 wherein ~~for said notification~~ an audio or visual signal is used<u> to notify</u>.

16.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the communication between the first communication unit ~~(202)~~and the second communication unit ~~(208)~~is <u>at least one of</u> a simplex communication<u> and a duplex communication</u>.

17.   (cancelled)

18.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the communication between the first communication unit ~~(202)~~and the second communication unit ~~(208)~~is secured by an end-to-end encryption.

19.   (original) The method according to claim 18, wherein synchronization data blocks replace a corresponding amount of the audio data blocks at a beginning of data stream.

20.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the communication between the at least two communication units is a call using a direct set-up method.

21.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said step of transmitting ~~(118) of the~~audio data blocks is delayed in a first speech item.

22.   (currently amended) The method according to ~~any one of preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein said first communication unit ~~(202)~~and said second communication unit ~~(208)~~operate in different communication systems.

23.   (cancelled)

24.   (cancelled)

25.   (currently amended) The <u>method according to claim 1</u>~~communication unit according to claim 23~~, wherein the <u>first</u> communication unit is a TETRA radio or an ASTRO/APCO 25 radio or an IDEN radio, a GSM radio, a GSM-R radio or any <u>radio in a</u> digital radio system utilizing a low rate vocoder.